



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

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## MURRILL HOPES TO CONTINUE KENTUCKY SUCCESS AT FAIR GROUNDS

**LOUISVILLE, Ky. (Sunday, Nov. 15, 2020)** – Jockey **Mitchell Murrill** has enjoyed a lucrative first year riding fulltime in Kentucky recording 15 wins at Churchill Downs and finishing in the top three in 52 of his last 100 starts. Now the Alabama-native will roll into Fair Grounds with hopes to continue his success in New Orleans.

“We’ve been very fortunate to ride a lot of nice horses this year in Kentucky,” Murrill said. “My agent (**Tim Hanisch**) and I have worked hard all year on the backside getting business and the hard work has paid off.”

Murrill, who began riding professionally in Louisiana when he was just 20 years old, has typically ridden at Arlington Park in the spring but he decided to turn his attention to riding in Kentucky.

“I’m going to ride hard to try and get the best finish we possibly can,” Murrill said. “We’ve been very fortunate to have the support of many trainers on the backside to give us the opportunities to ride nice horses.”

Murrill is no stranger to the limelight having played the guitar in front of thousands of people prior to becoming a jockey at Alabama’s Pecan Festival.

“I got used to the pressure at an early age performing guitar in front of thousands of people at the Pecan Festival,” said Murrill, who still performs locally when he’s not riding. “Having thousands of people support you like that gives you a lot of confidence. It translates a lot to confidence when riding knowing not to get nervous.”

To date, Murrill has won 76 races with more than \$2.5 million in purse earnings. He was scheduled to ride three horses on Sunday before making the 10-hour journey to Fair Grounds for the next four months.

**CHILUKKI STAKES PROBABLES** – Next Saturday’s program is highlighted by the \$100,000 Chilukki (Grade II) for fillies and mares 3-year-olds and up at one-mile on the dirt.

Here are the early probable entrants, according to Churchill Downs assistant racing secretary and stakes coordinator **Dan Bork**: **Gold Standard** (trainer Brad Cox), **Grand Cru Classe** (Bill Mott), **Istan Council** (Larry Jones), **Sanenus** (Michael McCarthy); and **Whoa Nellie** (Jones).

Entries for Saturday’s program will be taken on Wednesday.

**TV SCHEDULE** – Racing at Churchill Downs continues every Wednesday-Sunday through Nov. 29 daily first post at 1 p.m. (except 11:30 a.m. on Thanksgiving Day). Below is this week’s TV schedule on the Fox Sports family of networks:

Sunday: FS1 (11-12 p.m., 3:30-6) | FS2 (12-3:30 p.m.) | MSG+ (12:30-6 p.m.)

Wednesday: FS2 (12:30-5:30 p.m.) | MSG+ (12:30-5:30 p.m.)

Thursday: FS2 (12-6 p.m.) | MSG+ (12-6 p.m.)

Friday: FS2 (12-6 p.m.) | MSG+ (12-6 p.m.)

Saturday: FS2 (12-5:30 p.m.) | MSG+ (12-6:30 p.m.)

Sunday: FS1 (12-4 p.m.), FS2 (4-6 p.m.) | MSG+ (12:30-6 p.m.)

**CHURCHILL DOWNS PARTNERS WITH NYRA FOR CROSS COUNTRY PICK 5** – Churchill Downs has once again partnered with the New York Racing Association for a Cross Country Pick 5 this week.

Sunday’s race order and approximate post times (all times eastern):

Leg A: Aqueduct Race 8 (3:17 p.m.)

Leg B: Churchill Race 6 (3:36 p.m.)

Leg C: Aqueduct Race 9 (3:47 p.m.)

Leg D: Churchill Race 7 (4:06 p.m.)

Leg E: Churchill Race 9 (5:06 p.m.)

The 50-cent minimum wager has a 15% takeout and can be placed at simulcast centers and ADWs including TwinSpire.com.

**DOWN THE STRETCH** – There was a \$126,958 carryover in the 20-cent Single 6 Jackpot for racing on Sunday. First post was 1 p.m. and the Single 6 spanned Races 5-10. ... The track was listed “sloppy” for training Sunday morning following overnight rain in Louisville. The condition was expected to be upgraded prior to first post, according to track superintendent Jamie Richardson. ... Churchill Downs is off the turf through Nov. 22 ... Racing will continue at Churchill Downs on Wednesday for a nine-race program with a first post of 1 p.m. For more information and to purchase tickets, visit [www.churchilldowns.com](http://www.churchilldowns.com).

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